

REMARKS

I Disposition of Claims

Claims 1 and 7-12 are currently pending. No amendments are currently submitted.

IV Non-Obviousness

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1, and 7-12 under 35 USC 103(a) as being obvious over Polaschegg in view of Sugawara (JP 3292964), in further view of Lamadrid (US 4,397,642).

In order to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness, the references in combination must teach or suggest each of the claim elements when viewed in the light of one having ordinary skill in the art. However, the presently cited references fails to do so.

The presently claimed invention defines a structure which has a rotatable cam member and first and second press member, as exemplified in Figs- 10a, 10b and 11. The first and second press members are supported slidably to contact with a surface of the cam member (167). The cam member has a concave on its surface (173). The press members fit in and leave from the concave by rotating the cam member. This slide movement of the press members blocks and releases first and second syringe tubes.

None of the cited references suggests the above-mentioned structure. With respect to claim 1, the Examiner states that Sugawara teaches a pivotal first press member and a pivotal second press member. However, Sugawara does not disclose the pivotal press members. The press members are slidable members driven by a magnet coil. Additionally, the Examiner states that Lamadrid teaches an interlock mechanism with crank member supported pivotally on its own trailing end, a first link member for connecting a leading end of the crank member to the first press member and a second link member for connecting the leading end of the crank member to the second press member to provide an automatic shut off. However, the crank member and the first and second link member are not essential elements in the present invention.

None of the cited references teach the limitation "a cam member supported rotatably and having a concave portion of a surface thereof with which the first press member and the second press member engage" nor the limitation "wherein the first and second press members release the blocking of the first and second syringe tubes by their trailing ends being fit in the concave portion so that one of the syringe tubes is released after the other syringe tube is blocked" as no concave portion is taught as being part of any cam member in the cited references. Moreover, the

Examiner has not set forth any reason for one having ordinary skill in the art to modify the teachings of the references to produce these features. Therefore the references in combination neither teach nor suggest the claimed invention, and the claims should be allowed.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above, it is submitted that the claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and withdrawal of all outstanding rejections are respectfully requested. Allowance of the claims at an early date is solicited. If any points remain that can be resolved by telephone, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-given telephone number.

Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

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